

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION  
of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress<sup>1</sup>**

[Date approved: July 15, 2010]<sup>2</sup>

**Bill No. and sponsor:** S. 2431 (Mr. Sam Brownback of Kansas).

**Proponent name,<sup>3</sup> location:** Payless ShoeSource, Inc., Topeka, KS.

**Other bills on product (111<sup>th</sup> Congress only):** None.

**Nature of bill:** Extension of temporary duty reduction through December 31, 2011.

**Retroactive effect:** None.

**Suggested article description(s) for enactment (including appropriate HTS subheading(s)):**

Other footwear with uppers of vegetable fibers, for men (provided for in subheading 6405.20.30).

**Check one:**     ☒ Same as that in bill as introduced.  
                      ☐ Different from that in bill as introduced (see Technical comments section).

**Product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports:**

The subject goods include a variety of miscellaneous men's footwear with uppers of vegetable fibers, which are imported under statistical reporting number 6405.20.3030.<sup>4</sup>

U.S. imports of such footwear under the duty reduction provision in effect through the end of 2009 totaled \$28.7 million in 2008 and \$42.2 million in January–September 2009. China was the leading supplier of the subject footwear imports. Dutiable U.S. imports under statistical reporting number 6405.20.3030 totaled just over \$68 million in 2009, with China providing about \$67.3 million of those imports. Thus far in 2010, dutiable imports have reached approximately \$58.4 million, and China accounted for about \$57.7 million of these shipments.

<sup>1</sup> Industry analyst preparing report: Kimberlie Freund (202-708-5402); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).

<sup>2</sup> Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at [http://www.usitc.gov/tariff\\_affairs/congress\\_reports/](http://www.usitc.gov/tariff_affairs/congress_reports/).

<sup>3</sup> The sponsor/proponent indicated that the bill is reasonably expected to benefit more than ten firms, but did not provide any named beneficiaries.

<sup>4</sup> The general rate of duty on this footwear was reduced to 4.5 percent ad valorem through the end of 2009 under HTS heading 9902.13.91.

**Estimated effect on customs revenue for the subject product classifiable in HTS subheading 6405.20.30:**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Col. 1-General rate of duty	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports <sup>a</sup>	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000
Customs revenue loss <sup>b</sup>	\$1,950,000	\$1,950,000	\$1,950,000	\$1,950,000	\$1,950,000

a/ Dutiable import estimates were based on official U.S. Government statistics and industry information.

b/ At the request of Congress, customs revenue loss is provided for 5 years, although the effective period of the proposed legislation may differ. Data presented in this table reflect the reduction of the general duty rate from 7.5% ad valorem to 4.5% ad valorem, representing a reduction of 3 percentage points.

**Contacts with domestic firms/organizations (including the proponent):**

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
		(Yes/No)		
Payless ShoeSource, Inc. (Proponent) Curtis Sneden, curtis-snedden@payless.com	11/30/2009	No	No	No
American Apparel and Footwear Association Nate Herman, nherman@apparelandfootwear.org	11/30/2009	No	No	No
Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America Matt Priest, mpriest@frdr.org	11/30/2009	No	No	No
Rubber and Plastic Footwear Manufacturers Mitch Cooper, mjc12311@verizon.net	11/30/2009	No	No	No

**Technical comments:<sup>5</sup>**

None.

<sup>5</sup> The Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only the U.S. Customs Service is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that the U.S. Customs Service should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2431

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain men's footwear.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 29, 2009

Mr. BROWNBACK introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain men's footwear.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CERTAIN MEN'S FOOTWEAR.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Heading 9902.13.91 of the Har-  
5 monized Tariff Schedule of the United States (relating to  
6 certain men's footwear) is amended by striking “12/31/  
7 2009” and inserting “12/31/2011”.

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
9 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from

- 1 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after
- 2 the date of the enactment of this Act.

